

Appln. No. 09/696,095
Amendment dated September 18, 2009
Reply to Office Action dated June 18, 2009

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The June 18, 2009 Final Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are amended, and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

Inasmuch as the present Amendment raises no new issues for consideration, and, in any event, places the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for consideration on appeal, its entry under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.116 are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In the Office Action claims 63, 66 and 69 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In response, claim 63 is amended in a sincere effort to obviate the indefiniteness rejection. Specifically, the phrase "associated

with a user identification of the one of the portable information terminals which accesses the apparatus" has been amended to -- associated with each other -- to more clearly indicate what the term "associated with a user identification" was meant to modify. Similar amendments are made to claims 66 and 69. In view of the amendment of claims 63, 66 and 69, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 63, 66 and 69 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 are respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In the Office Action claims 63, 66 and 69 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent Publication No. US00639726 (Eldridge et al.).

In response, claims 63, 66 and 69 are amended in a sincere effort to more clearly define the present claimed invention as defined by claims 63, 66 and 69 over Eldridge et al.

The present claimed invention as defined by claims 63, 66 and 69 has the following effects.

1) Since the printing information distribution apparatus transmits the content selection screen image and print format selection screen image to the portable information terminal which accesses the apparatus, the user of the portable information

terminal selects content and printing format for the content on the content selection screen and print format selection screen of the portable information terminal.

2) Since the printing information distribution apparatus generates print content based on the content name and print format information, and transmits via electronic mail a print preparation complete notification to the portable information terminal which accesses the apparatus, the user immediately knows that the print preparation is complete.

3) Since the printing information distribution apparatus transmits the user identification input screen image to the printer which accesses the apparatus, and transmits the generated print content and the print format information which are associated with the user identification to the printer which accesses the apparatus, the user can receive a reserved print at the printer by only inputting the user identification on the user identification input screen of the printer.

Eldridge et al. (US 6,397,261 B1) teach a system in which secure document tokens are transmitted to a recipient mail client 229 from a sender email client 202 through mail servers 226 and 228.

The mobile computing device 118 of Eldridge et al. merely receives the secure document tokens through mail servers 226 and 228. A user of the mobile computing device 118 cannot select secure document tokens and cannot select a printing format for the secure document tokens on the selection screen of the terminal as can be accomplished with the present claimed invention.

According to Eldridge et al., since the secure document tokens are transmitted through the mail servers 226 and 228, it is not possible for a user to know beforehand that the secure document tokens are transmitted.

As shown in FIG. 1, Eldridge et al. teach that the mobile computing device 118 transmits the secure document tokens to the printer 102 through the IR gateways 114 or RF gateway 120 in order for the printer 102 to print the secure document tokens. Therefore, it is necessary to bring the mobile computing devices 118 to the printer location. According to the invention of Eldridge et al., a user cannot receive a reserved print at the printer by only inputting the user identification on the user identification input screen of the printer.

The present claimed invention as defined by claim 63 is patentable over Eldridge et al. and all of the other references

of record, when taken either alone or in combination because the references do not disclose, teach or suggest:

1. Communication means for, when one of the portable information terminals accesses the apparatus through a wireless communication network, reading a content selection screen image and a print format selection screen image which are stored in a memory;

2. Reception means for receiving a content name and print format information transmitted from one of the portable information terminals which accesses the apparatus, and for storing a received content name, the received print format information, and a user identification of the one of the portable information terminals in a reservation information storing means with the received content name, the received print format information, and the user information being associated with each other; and

3. Distribution means for, when one of the printers accesses the apparatus through the wireless communication network, reading a user identification input screen image stored in the memory, for transmitting the user identification input screen image to the one of the printers which accesses the apparatus, for receiving a user identification of a portable

information terminal transmitted from one of the printers which accesses the apparatus, and for transmitting the print content generated by the generation means and the print format information which are associated with the received user identification to the one of the printers which accesses the apparatus.

Claims 66 and 69 are patentable over Eldridge et al. and all of the other references of record for reasons, inter alia, set forth above in connection with claim 63.

In view of the foregoing, claims 63, 66 and 69 are in form for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

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Entry of this Amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

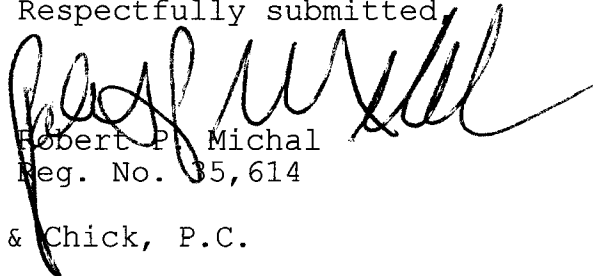
If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the

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undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt
action.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert P. Michal", is written over the typed name and registration number.

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